

Interesting Cases

A very unlucky dog...or thank goodness for insurance!

Joey is a very bouncy, happy 2 and ½ year old Labrador. He is always happy to come to the vets – we always know when he's entered the waiting room by the crashing of chairs - and he always greets us with the massive exuberance which is his defining feature. Like any other Labrador he loves his food, (especially if it's not good for him), and loves his walks. Unfortunately Joey is quite unlucky - so unlucky in fact that he has now been to see us a massive 40 times in the last 2 and ½ years! It's never really his fault – if there's a piece of glass on a walk then he'll find it and cut himself on it!



Here's a list of some of Joey's incidents.....

- Nasty cut to his stopper pad requiring general anaesthetic, suturing and regular dressing changes (which are a challenge in a very wriggly dog).
- Another wound to the stopper pad – this time stapled closed under local anaesthetic.
- Ate a full box of Jaffa cakes – luckily he's a big dog and this wasn't a toxic dose of chocolate for him (but could have been for a small dog).
- Ate 200g chocolate sponge.
- Conjunctivitis
- Vomiting and diarrhoea, one incident serious enough to require hospitalisation, intravenous fluids, antibiotics and antacids / gut protectants.
- Bloody diarrhoea
- Ear infections
- Wound at the side of his nose which cut an artery and caused a large amount of blood loss just as his owners were about to go on holiday. Narrowly avoided needing a blood transfusion but did need special fluids called colloids to replace to the volume of blood lost. General anaesthetic needed to tie off blood vessels and suture the wound.
- Injury to one of his pads following triathlon training with his owner.
- Yet another cut pad.....

All of these incidents were unpredictable and some of them were quite serious. Luckily he has very dedicated owners who bring him to the vets whenever he is poorly. They also had the presence of mind to get Joey fully insured, which means that they have been able to claim back the majority of the money that Joey has cost them in veterinary treatment.

Unfortunately most injuries and illness in our pets are not predictable and you may find yourself with large unexpected veterinary bills. Pet Insurance can be invaluable so that you can concentrate on getting your pet back to full health without worrying about the financial side. A bill of £100, £500 or even £1000 never looks so bad if you know that you can claim the money back (minus your insurance excess).

Talk to one of our receptionists, nurses or vets about insurance – it really is worth it!